EPA Community Meeting Agenda

1. **Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions**
   David Cooper, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
2. **Goals for Tonight's Meeting**
   Nicole Moutoux, EPA Superfund Project Manager
3. **Background Radiological Study for the SSFL Site**
   Gregg Dempsey, EPA Radiological Expert
4. **Schedule and Next Steps on the Background Study**
   Nicole Moutoux, EPA Superfund Project Manager
5. **Opportunities for Community Involvement**
   David Cooper, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
   Luis Garcia-Bakarich, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
6. **Adjourn**

US EPA Santa Susana Field Lab Technical Team

US EPA

- Nicole Moutoux, Project Manager, San Francisco
- Craig Cooper, Project Manager, San Francisco
- Mary Aycock, Project Manager, San Francisco
- Gregg Dempsey, Senior Science Advisor, Radiation and Indoor Environments National Lab

US EPA Contractors

- Eric Evans, Project Manager, Hydrogeologic, Inc.
- Carl Palladino, Radiological Specialist, The Palladino Company, Inc.

Goals for Tonight's Meeting

- Describe the purpose of a background study
- Describe the steps involved in conducting a successful study
- Discuss how the results will be used
- Tell you what we have done to date – in particular which locations we are considering
- Hear community ideas and concerns

Background Radiological Study for the SSFL

Gregg Dempsey
Senior Science Advisor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Radiation and Indoor Environments National Laboratory
Las Vegas, Nevada

Presentation Overview

- Radiological Background Study objectives
- Status of Radiological Background Study
- Radiological Background Study location selection
  - Background location criteria
  - Background location evaluation
  - Location selection
- Summary of key points

Background Radiation

- What is “background radiation”?
- How does this relate to SSFL?
- Why is this study needed?

Radiological Background Study Objectives

- The purpose of the Background Study is to determine the level of “ambient or background” radioactivity found in soil.
- The Background Study results will be compared to radiological data collected on the SSFL to determine the level of radiological contamination associated with past operations.

Environmental Media and Data Collection Techniques

- Surface Soils
  - Gamma survey
  - Soil sampling and laboratory analysis
- Subsurface Soils
  - Downhole gamma subsurface survey
  - Soil sampling and laboratory analysis
- Quality Assurance procedures will be followed throughout the study to ensure high data quality

Radionuclides of Interest

- Naturally occurring radionuclides (e.g., U-238, U-235, Th-228)
- Radionuclides found in fallout (e.g., Cs-137, Sr-90, H-3)

Radionuclides of Interest

Produced at SSFL

- Radionuclides found in nuclear fuel (e.g., Pu-238, Am-241, U-235)
- Fission Products (e.g., Cs-137, Sr-90)
- Activation Products (e.g., Co-60, Fe-55, Na-22)

Status of Radiological Background Study

- ✓ Initial project planning
- ❑ Background location evaluation and selection
- ❑ Sampling Plan preparation
- ❑ Sampling preparation and mobilization
  - Access agreements
  - Subcontracting
  - Location preparation
- ❑ Sampling
- ❑ Laboratory analyses
- ❑ Data validation, evaluation, and statistical analysis
- ❑ Report preparation

Study Team

- US EPA
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Boeing
- NASA
- Community Members

Acknowledgements

- Christina Walsh
- William Bowling
- Dan Hirsch
- Marie Mason
- Holly Huff
- Dawn Kowalski
- Colleen Garcia

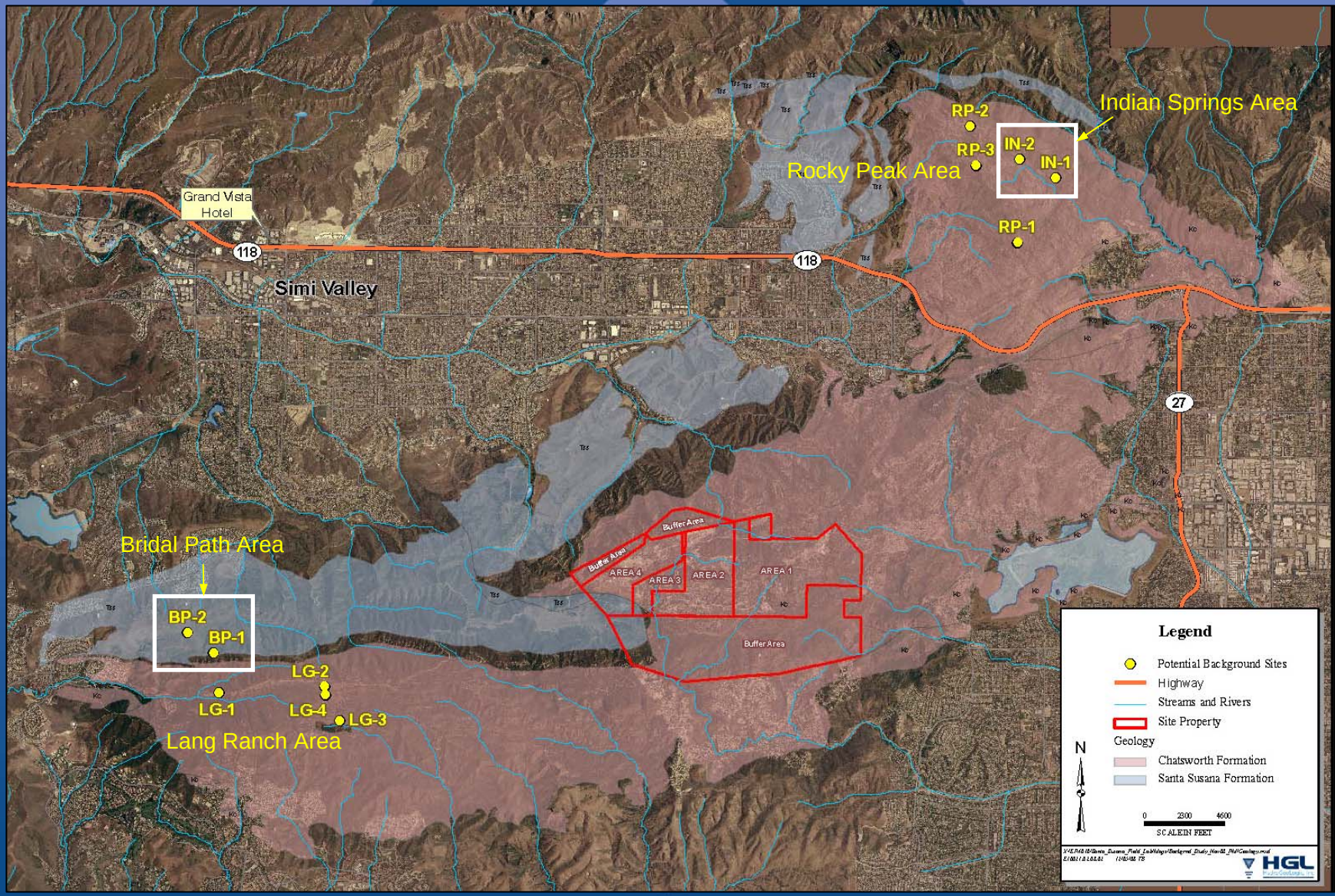
Location Evaluation and Selection

- Conducted with considerable assistance from community members
- Initially, over 200 locations in seven general areas were identified and evaluated
- To date, eleven locations were selected for in-depth evaluation
- These eleven locations were reviewed and evaluated using the selection criteria

Background Location Selection Criteria

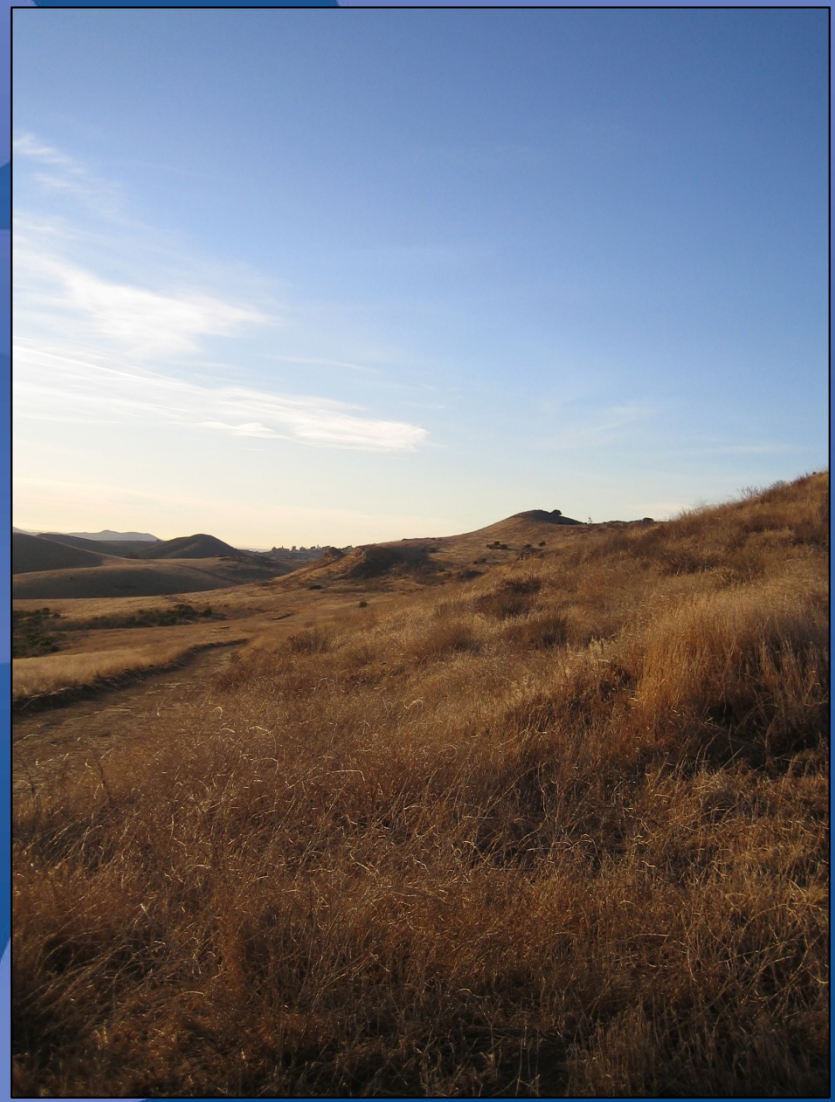
- Size
- Distance from SSFL
- Direction from SSFL
- Elevation
- Geology
- Amount of soil disturbance
- Soil thickness
- Access (physical and administrative)
- Ease of clearing
- Presence of protected plants or animals
- Others

Potential Background Locations



Lang Ranch Area

Bridal Path Area



Rocky Peak Area

Indian Springs Area

Selection Issues

- Distance from SSFL
  - Geology
  - Wind
- Soil disturbance
- Impact of fire

Summary of Key Points

- The radiological background study is one of the first steps in the site cleanup process
- Allows us to identify contaminated areas within the SSFL
- Several background selection issues are still under consideration

Next Steps

- Resolve remaining technical issues and select background locations
- Develop a sampling plan
- Share the sampling plan with the community

Background Study Schedule for 2009

- Spring: complete sampling plan and hold another community meeting
- Summer: begin sampling
- Summer/Fall: analyze and evaluate data
- Winter: draft report of findings

Background Study Questions/Comments

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Information Repositories

Simi Valley Library
2969 Tapo Canyon Road
Simi Valley, CA 93063
805-526-1735

Los Angeles Public Library
Platt Branch
23600 Victory Road
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
818-340-9386

Community Involvement

David Cooper

US EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

Community Involvement

- Communities have a voice in EPA's process
- EPA helps people become involved by providing
  - Educational materials and fact sheets
  - Community meetings
  - Results of EPA's investigation
  - Toll-free message line (800-231-3075)
  - Information Repositories
  - Web site (http://epa.gov/region09)
  - Technical assistance to explain documents

Community Involvement Plan

- Based on community interviews
- Interviews are a subset of various stakeholder groups
- Identifies issues and concerns
- Describes ways that EPA will provide information and receive community feedback
- Outlines site project timeframes and milestones
- To be located at the Information Repositories along with other site documents

Upcoming Community Involvement Activities

- Upcoming Activities
  - Community interviews for the Community Involvement Plan
  - Community meetings
  - Fact sheets
  - Information repository and web site

Technical Assistance

Luis Garcia-Bakarich

US EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

TASC

(Technical Assistance Services for Communities)

- Assistance is intended to help communities
  - better understand hazardous waste issues
  - to be a more effective participant in the decision making process
- Contract – That provides **independent** technical assistance **services** to communities affected by hazardous wastes via information and experts.

TASC Technical Experts

- Environmental engineers and scientists from private companies
- Part of a network of experts that EPA has contracted with to provide these services
- Independent Professional Judgment

How can TASC help?

- Answer questions about hazardous wastes
- Educate the community on scientific, engineering, health or economic concepts
- Radiological background study
  - Independent review of the sampling plan
  - Develop comments to submit to EPA

Community Involvement Contact Information

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